...ily and Weekly Commercial—News ...scriber.]. Anyone who takes a paper reg... ...ce, whether directed to his name or ... ...or whether he has subscribed or not—is respon... ...the payment.

...y person orders his paper discontinued, he must ... ...rrearages, or the publisher may continue to send ... ...ntinues to receive it, may consider that he has ... ...ntil the whole amount, ...ers refuse to take them from the office or not.

...courts have decided that refusing to take News ... ...Periodicals from the Postoffice, or removing and ... ...uncalled for, is *prima facie* evidence of intentional fraud.

...ll remittances must be made in Money Orders, ...ecks, or Drafts, if possible. When neither of ... ...can be procured, send the money in a Registered ... The present Registering system is virtually as safe as a Draft. Against losses by mail, and all Post ... are obliged to account for when registered, we are not responsible.

...ll communications designed for publication should be addressed to

C. D. BRIGHAM, Editor.

...etters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., should be addressed to THE COMMERCIAL, Pittsburgh, Pa.

1873.

e Pittsburgh

OMMERCIAL,

ly and Weekly.

LEADING

NSYLVANIA PAPER.

...er so widely known as the COMMER... ...n safely refer to its course in the past ...anty for the future. But it will not be ...o pursue the beaten path. The re... ...of General Grant insures for the coun... ...gathered period of prosperity and pro... ...he press is destined to play a still ...portant part as the educator of the ...ld leader of public opinion. In the ...s in the past, the COMMERCIAL will ...ntent to lag in the rear, but will be ... to the times in whatever relates to the ...welfare.

PAPER OF GENERAL INTELLI... AND MEDIUM OF THE LATEST ...he COMMERCIAL is widely known ...ated. We expend annually many ...s of dollars to supply the wants of ...ic.

PAPER OF PROGRESS, it will here... ...tinue to maintain its character in this ...

INDEPENDENT REPUBLICAN ...the COMMERCIAL will criticise its ...y for its own good, believing that in ...usion and the independent expression ...on only can our institutions be pre...

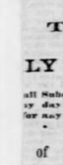
BUSINESS PAPER, the COMMER... will hereafter, as heretofore, employ ...ency it can command to meet the ...f the public. No pains to profit ...citement has been passed, it will pay ...ttention to topics interesting in the ...y room, the banks and marts of trade, ...ominence to Science, Art, Invention, ...ture and Manufactures.

PAPER FOR THE FAMILY it will ...ntinue to publish to instruct, improve ...ing taste and luxuriate the mind, and a ...l at a large cost.

MARKET PAPER its reports will ...ess a special excellence, so that the ...ed seller can at all times consult its ...s for every necessary information as to ...d the spirit of the different branches ...

Everything that is bought and sold ...ttsburgh market and the leading mar... ...he country will receive careful atten... ...l at a large cost.

...ominy is about entering on a period of ...sled prosperity. The field of journal... ...instantly expanding. It will be the ...COMMERCIAL to hold a position ...g with the leading journals of the ...



TERMS OF THE LY COMMERCIAL.

...all Subscribers $10 00 a year, begin... ...ay day; and at the same rate per ...or any part of the year.

...of the Weekly Commercial.

...py.....	$2 00
...opies, each.....	1 75
...pies, each.....	1 50
...0 copies, each.....	1 40
...0 copies, each.....	1 25

...ery person sending a club of twenty... ...scribers at $1 50 each, we will present ...Hunting Case Watch, warranted.

...antiful Chromo will be given to each ...er remitting us $2 00.

...ions to Clubs may be made at any time ...ear, at the above Club rates.

...MS—Cash in advance. Send Postoffice ...order, bank draft or registered letter, ...at by mail will be at the risk of the ...

...men copies, posters, &c., sent free of ...wherever and whenever desired.

Postmasters are invited to act as our ...

...es all orders and letters to

E COMMERCIAL,

PITTSBURGH, PA.

THE HOLIDAYS.

...ouse Decorations for Christmas.

[From the Hearth and Home.]

...tens are the proper decoration for Christ... ...verybody knows. Flowers should be used ...y, but still it is well to have a few—immor... ...everlastings, bachelor's buttons, ...hemums—flowers that do not easily wither. ...erries may be freely used, and a cluster of ...leaves will make an effective point of color ...d white evergreens, and the graceful branch... ...rilliant leaves with blend harmoniously with ...ous shades of green in the festoons of ivy, ...me shade of the holly's berry color used more ...y than the berries will admit of in decorating. ...rtable autumn leaves do not need to be varnished ...ith Christmas. If laid in a newspaper and ...der a weight they will keep sufficiently ...his purpose.

...and the flowers must be only for finishing ...ine nicety; the evergreens, the work and the principal part of the ...ds of these can be had for little or ...but some ...oe than others; the leaves of the ...ter and the cedar fall easily, so that ...with handsome carpets, but do not ...t them entirely, especially the ...ground-pine, ivy, and holly are ...e evergreen. The latter is es... ...on account of its dark green and ...f berries. It seems always to ...special veneration. The mistletoe ...venerable, having been rev... ...ans and Christian. But it is not ...ssome of it (so lovingly do we ...tions), and the legend in regard ...that it was once a tree, but that ...riour being made of it dwindled ...

...etc., should not be "spotted" ...a room. Indeed, it is well not to ...commercial figures, trifles, square hats, ...gnarfoulis, etc. The two latter ...him, which Wilder & Co.'s bromo chlo... ...him, to be had of druggists, mix with ...four parts water and a few drops of ...tumors, and all the tender places about the ...will be found run out through the gap in ...moderate weather.

SEASONABLE HINTS FOR THE C...

To Broil a Fowl.—The fire should be clear but not scorching; the gridiron several inches from the coals, and rubbed over with the oil of a fowl, a small bit of which should be reserved for the purpose. Split the fowl down the back-bone, roll it to break down the breast-bone, dust it slightly with salt and pepper, place on the gridiron, first the inside; merely warm enough to melt the oil in greasing. Put the chicken on the gridiron breast down, and let it broil very slow. Cover the gridiron entirely with a shallow pan, and put a weight on it to keep the fowl flat. Let it broil for half an hour, but not quicker, lest not enough time be left for the juice to settle in it; after standing on the fowl, into the gravy, turn the chicken over, broil slowly until nearly done, then turn it, dip on to it a little gravy, and broil gently until done. If it takes full half an hour to broil a chicken well, if hurried it will be worthless, either half done or hard-broiled bitter. When done, dip it in the gravy both sides, and put two tablespoonfuls of water to the dish, mix it with the butter and flour in the gravy, and when mixed pour it on.

If you can broil one fowl well, you can broil all to do whether domestic or wild.

To Roast a Canvas-back Duck.—Dress and stuff it with a nice dressing of bread, butter, sage and a little onion. Roast before a brisk fire, baste with butter, serve with its own gravy, or a sauce made with port wine, etc.

Baked Turkey.—Allow from two to two and a half hours steady baking for a common-sized young turkey; serve with a browned gravy. All roast fowls should be served with dressed vegetables, currant, grape or cranberry jelly, and a baked pudding or pie.

Cold Slaw.—Cut up the cabbage very fine with a sharp knife, and sprinkle over it a salt-spoon of salt. For a large dish—say a quart of cut cabbage—use two eggs, a piece of butter the size of an egg, half a teacup of water and half a teacup of good vinegar. Beat the eggs (whites and yolks) together very light, add the water, vinegar and butter, and put all in a clean tin on the fire, stirring all the time until it is of a creamy thickness. Pour it hot over the cabbage, stir up well with a fork, and leave to cool.

FOOD FOR MILCH COWS.

In Blanchard's "Butter Manual" the following advice on the subject of food for milch cows is given: Rich feed, in abundance, is absolutely essential to success ful buttermaking. A certain amount of food is required to support the animal, and if only that quantity is given, it is idle to expect any return in milk, and up to a certain point, in every animal, the production of quantity takes precedence of quality. If, now, that can be induced to eat, and will assimilate a largely increased quantity of good food, the *quality* of the milk is very greatly improved; and while the amount of butter is increased, its quality is also improved.

The tendency to lay on fat under high feeding is generally thought objectionable in cows for dairy purposes. We do not, however, view it in just that light. A very strong tendency in that direction, without any corresponding tendency to an increase of milk and butter, would, of course, be objectionable. The fat stored away is the animal's balance wheel. A cold, stormy day, or any slight interruption in the supply of food, affects the butter production in the case of a cow in low condition; and, if it be continued, it is presently manifested in the decrease of the milk, and lastly, in the condition of the animal.

It is well known that winter butter is almost always much inferior to summer. This is a natural result of the consumption of the oleine or liquid fat of the butter to keep up the animal heat; and if we would counteract this effect, and keep up the quality of the product, we must increase the supply of respiratory food.

Whatever tends to the production of fat or heat, tends to the production of butter; and whatever means may be employed to lessen its waste, such as warming the feed and water, and the stables, tend to the increase of butter.

Cows in pastures with an abundant supply of mixed grasses, free from foul weeds, and with plenty of good clean water to drink, without having to travel far for it, or to suck it up from a foul mud hole, with an occasional shade in a hot day, and time enough to eat at their leisure, and a shed or stable with a well filled rack to which they can resort in stormy weather, are about as good a situation to produce much and rich cheese or butter as they can well be, and the nearer to this condition they can be kept the better. Hence, if drouth prevails or if for any other cause it is thought best to supplement the pasture, it can be done in a manner, if possible, that they may feel and believe that they are feeding on their fodder and pasture. It is a bad policy to force upon them as food, dry, woody stalks of anything, nor yet those half-grown and unmatured watery articles known as green corn fodder. Selling cream by the case the most part good for the production of a large quantity of milk, but not for a large quantity of good quality of butter. We are hopefully cured, they are a very great help for a short season. Early cut and well cured meadow hay of good quality, and well cared corn fodder are the best substitutes for pasture grass in summer and winter feeding. But whatever be the quality, the quantity should never be stinted.

The driving of cows considerable distances causes them to shrink in their milk, and should be made up by a drain on the cascine of the milk, and upon the butter indirectly at least; while it driven beyond their slowest gait, the direct waste is increased in a ratio more considerably increased. The cows that are obliged to keep upon their feet most of the day travelling after food, and to drink at long intervals, and of a poorer quality, than those who fill themselves with less labor and more quickly, and retire to some shady nook to digest their food at their leisure.

WHY "SHEEP DON'T PAY" SOME FARMERS.

The *Western Rural* says: We have often noticed that the cry "sheep don't pay," comes from a class of farmers who generally fail to make any kind of business pay well. In the first place, they buy the poorest sheep and can be bought cheap—those that some shrewder trader sells in the spring, small and ill-shaped. As their opinion it does not amount to pay a big price for a fine-blooded animal, so that is bought and turned in with the flock. Some of the increase resemble the sire, some the dams and others are like neither. They are a mixture from of the flock. When the surplus animals are fattened they are found to possess as few attractions for the butcher as the fleece affords for the shearer. The wool is short, light, and carry their flesh in fair quantities at the proper points; but, after all, are no advantage to the flock, as their better appearance is also accompanied by the deficiency of size in the remaining animals. Even when well cared for, the chances are against such a flock paying for the necessary feed, and we constantly hear them would pay for these, a flock of good sheep would make money for their owner.

The ram should be used that is not better in blood and build than the flock he serves, if such an one can be secured. The more marked his individual better, and the more pure is his "blood" the more certainly will it "tell" in the increase.

Again, the men who make sheep pay do not stint their flocks in food. Good feeding is as necessary as careful breeding. We do not mean by this that a flock needs to be inpounded and overfed to do well, but it needs to be generously treated.

True economy would suggest that, to a prudent extent, they be made the scavengers of the stalk field and the stubble field (always excepting those on the highway of burrs); and, when convenient, the blue grass pasture also. But the farmer should be careful to supply from time to time, and in a judicious manner, all that these may lack of keeping up the fullest thrift in both flesh and fleece. In no other way can he get so much profit from his corn, and the refuse of corn when converted into four pounds of wool, (and if properly fed it will make more), will pay for longer required three-fourths of its quantity and value to get the other part to market, as is now the case. When converted into wool, corn can be moved from Chicago to the seaboard for two and one-half cents per bushel; and most of this can be saved by selling the clip to manufacturers in your own neighborhood.

THE BEST FERTILIZER.

A correspondent of the New York *Tribune* holds these excellent articles of faith: I believe the best fertilizer of any soil is a spirit of industry, enterprise and intelligence, and without these the best guano will be useless. I believe that a man who is not smart enough to enter the commercial world is not smart enough to run a farm.

HINTS FOR HOUSEKEEPERS.

Frozen custard is a nice dish for dessert and very easily prepared. Boil two quarts of rich milk. Beat eight eggs and a teacupful of sugar together, and after the milk has boiled pour it over the eggs and sugar, stirring all the while. Pour the whole mixture into your kettle, and let it come to a boil, stirring it constantly. Then take it off the fire, and let it become cold. Then freeze as with other ice cream; you prefer. Then freeze it.

A simple plan to cure beef is to dissolve eight pounds of salt and four ounces saltpetre in about a pail of water, by heating on the stove. When it comes to a scald, add two quarts molasses and two pounds of sugar. After skimming carefully, pour the liquor after the beef, and place weights on it to keep it under. These are the proportions to about a hundred pounds of meat. Let this lie from four days to two weeks.

It is not every housewife who knows how best to boil a chicken. Plain, artless boiling is apt to produce a yellowish, slimy looking fowl. Before cooking, the bird should always be well washed, and the inside of the neck, and the stomach, and the gizzard, all to be thoroughly cleansed. Then put it down in cold water, and bring it slowly to a boil. Skim it carefully, and when it is entirely freed from scum, put in a little salt, and boil gently, not fast, for the latter will break the flesh and cause it to look ragged. Boiling water should be allowed to simmer slowly. This method is very effectual in preserving all the juices of the fowl, and the result is a delicate, tender and delicious looking morsel than the luckless bird which has been "galloped to death" in plain boiling water. Mutton is also much better for being boiled in paste.

A lady correspondent of the *Ohio Farmer* describes a dry-house which has been found very profitable and satisfactory. The actual outlay was twenty dollars, and in two weeks it had more than paid for itself. The building itself is a wood frame six by seven feet—boarded up and down and battened. No windows. There are two large holes bored on either side or ends for circulation of air, a perforated zinc floor, brick chimney. There is a tight-fitting panel door, and a parlor stove is in temporary use. There are racks made of nicely planed laths nailed to side pieces, for apples, pears, peaches and the like fruit. Sheets of tin with the edges turned up make very convenient holders for grapes, etc.; these are kept in place by setting them on pieces of wood, which reach across from side to side of the house, or from end to end.

A Change in the Method of Pork Packing.

The St. Louis *Democrat* says: The old time method of pork packing and pork speculation are rapidly passing away. It has ceased to be profitable for packers to borrow money in the fall for purchasing hogs during the slaughtering season and pay interest on the capital invested on high prices in the spring and summer selling. The period of high prices does not return with any regularity that need to assure one winter packer of a profitable season. Even in the best of years, the packer who will be the wealthiest, either half done or hard-broiled bitter. When done, dip it in the gravy both sides, and put two tablespoonfuls of water to the dish, mix it with the butter and flour in the gravy, and when mixed pour it on.

If you can broil one fowl well, you can broil all to do whether domestic or wild.

To Roast a Canvas-back Duck.—Dress and stuff it with a nice dressing of bread, butter, sage and a little onion. Roast before a brisk fire, baste with butter, serve with its own gravy, or a sauce made with port wine, etc.

Baked Turkey.—Allow from two to two and

WASHINGTON.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 19, 1872.

The Credit Mobilier Inquiry.

Mr. Alley had the floor in the Credit Mobilier Committee rooms this morning, and occupied the most of the time in a thorough and searching cross-examination of H. S. McComb, the result of which, from all that can be gathered, was highly satisfactory to Messrs. Alley and Ames, and confusing and damaging to McComb. The feature of the examination was James Brooks's alleged connection with the Credit Mobilier, and his receipt of fifty shares from Alley in consideration of his own appointment as Government Director and the control of the Democratic side of the House. In his direct testimony McComb said this transaction occurred in the fall of 1868. To-day he stated that it took place either in December, 1867, or in January or February, 1868, and finally, when hard pressed, said he knew nothing of the dates, and would not swear to the time within a year. Mr. Brooks, at the time McComb first fixed the transaction, in the fall of 1868, had been Government Director of the road for several months, a fact which weakens materially McComb's theory of the reason for his appointment. McComb also equally contradicted his previous testimony, that the fifty shares for Brooks come through Ames and belonged to him, to which, in addition, Mr. Alley testified positively that he never gave, sold or transferred a share of the Credit Mobilier stock to Brooks, and as for Neilson, Brooks's son-in-law, he never seen or heard of him. Mr. Alley also repeated his statement of the hostility between himself and Brooks, and his objections to the latter's appointment as Director.

The whole effect of the testimony to-day appears to be to quite discredit and disprove Brooks's bribery, and Alley and Ames expect that when they come to the cases of other Representatives they will meet with equal success in disposing of the element of bribery. The committee has adjourned till January 7th, and it is now expected that the doors will then be opened by order of the House. This would have been done to-day, had not a member named Perce been put forward to demand the regular order and shut out all resolutions for that purpose. The majority of the members, whose names have been used as having been approached by Ames, are desirous that the investigation shall be open. The statements of some of the individual cases are as follows: Mr. Dawes wishing to invest nine hundred dollars in some Western railroad bonds, consulted Mr. Ames as to the safety of the investment. The latter advised him to add one hundred dollars and buy ten shares of Credit Mobilier. Mr. Dawes was disposed to decline the purchase on the ground that he did not know anything as to the safety of the stock, and could not afford to risk the little money he had that way. Ames then offered to give Dawes a written guarantee that it should be worth ten per cent. to him. Subsequently Dawes learned what convinced him that he should not hold this stock, and asked the return of his money from the latter, and he retained it with the interest he had paid. Judge Bingham, Mr. Ames said the former placed in his Ames's hands several thousand dollars to invest as he thought best. He made purchases of various kinds of stocks for Bingham, and among them were a number of shares of Credit Mobilier. In the majority of cases the stock was held by Oakes Ames in his own name, and not transferred to the parties in interest. With one it was different, and that was where borrowing money from Oakes Ames, and he carried the stock to reimburse himself. General Banks states, in reference to Mr. Frank Bird's letter, that he was never offered or approached directly or indirectly by Mr. Ames at any time with Credit Mobilier stock, and that the only incident which ever resembled such transaction was an earnest ait tipt of George Francis Train to induce him to take some stock of Credit Fancier concern.

Senator's Witnesses Contradicted.

Ames further stated that he invested a little money he had in Credit Mobilier stock. After receiving the explanation from Ames, and assurance that no further legislation would be asked for or required, he agreed to take twenty shares upon the further offer of Ames to guarantee it to be worth ten per cent. shortly after the report of a law suit among members of the company for the public, Mr. Wilson, on inquiry felt convinced that this might lead to legislation on the part of Congress, and that it might also destroy the value of the stock. He went to Ames and requested the return of his money. Ames gave it back, with ten per cent. interest, and offered the dividends due; but there Mr. Wilson refused, and only received back the original principal and interest. The stock was exchanged to him. This transaction has no connection with the silver wedding story so generally circulated.

Proposed State of Deseret.

The bill for the admission of Utah to the Union as the new State of De-ere-et was introduced to-day as an amendment to the pending bill enabling Colorado to form a State Constitution. It provides that Representatives shall not be apportioned until the next census, and sets apart two sections in every township for common schools; fifty sections in the Territory for public buildings and an equal number for a penitentiary, seventy-two for a State University, and five per cent. of the proceeds of the sales of all public lands for public education. No religious test or civil qualification is made in the amendment to Polygamy or any other of the Mormon peculiar institutions, the only thing approaching it being a provision that the laws of the United States not inapplicable shall have the same force and effect within said State as elsewhere within the United States.

French Spoliation Claims.

The prospects of the French spoliation bill are not so favorable to-night, after two or three test votes in the Senate, as had been expected. A motion to lay the bill on the table failed by only one vote, and that vote would have been given by one of the absent Senators. The question of the claims of insurance companies, and the probable large amounts which they will receive, which have come prominently into the discussion are working against the measure.

For Illustrating Surveys.

Prof. Hayden asks, and Secretary Cowen recommends, an appropriation of twenty thousand dollars for illustrating his remaining volumes of the Survey of Territories.

Consular and Diplomatic Appropriation Bill.

The consular and diplomatic appropriation bill, reported to-day, covers $1,332,000.

Pneumatic Telegraph.

The bill of Mr. Palmer, of Iowa, for a posta telegraph, introduced to-day, authorizes a stock company, with a capital of twenty millions, to build a pneumatic postal telegraph lines, and directs the Postmaster General to contract with the company at certain specified rates. None of the employees of the company are government officers, and the government has no access to the messages. The report on the matter is very full, and is the work of Mr. Palmer. His plan has received the sanction of a majority of the Committee on Appropriations.

THE "TRIBUNE" AGAIN SOLD.

Wm. Orton Disposes of Fifty Shares to Whitelaw Reid; Retaining but One—Becomes One of the Trustees—Editorial Announcement.

NEW YORK, December 21.—William Orton, after considerable negotiation, has resold to Whitelaw Reid fifty shares out of the one hundred constituting the capital stock of the Tribune Association, for a large advance on the price at which he last was purchased. He retains one share, and is further agreed that he shall be elected one of the trustees of the association, thus securing it the benefit of his wide influence and recognized business ability.

The *Tribune*, in an editorial announcing the proprietorship, has the announcement that the publication will be continued on the same independent principles as heretofore, and will support the Republican banner which has been under the lead of Horace Greeley, and on the same policy so long, evidenced which it was one of his candid to reaffirm over his own signature in the following slaughtering words and pay interest on the capital invested on high prices in the spring and summer selling. The period of high prices does not return with any regularity that need to assure one winter packer of a profitable season. Even in the best of years, the packer who will be the wealthiest, either half done or hard-broiled bitter. When done, dip it in the gravy both sides, and put two tablespoonfuls of water to the dish, mix it with the butter and flour in the gravy, and when mixed pour it on.

If you can broil one fowl well, you can broil all to do whether domestic or wild.

To Roast a Canvas-back Duck.—Dress and stuff it with a nice dressing of bread, butter, sage and a little onion. Roast before a brisk fire, baste with butter, serve with its own gravy, or a sauce made with port wine, etc.

Baked Turkey.—Allow from two to two and

THE OIL TRADE.

PRODUCERS' AND REFINERS' COMBINATION.

Terms of the Agreement Adopted at Oil City Yesterday.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

TITUSVILLE, Pa., December 20, 1872.

A special meeting of the Petroleum Producers Council was held to-day at Oil City, to listen to the report of the Executive Committee and pass upon the agreement made between them and the Committee of the Refiners' Combination. An attempt was made to have the session secret, but the motion was voted down, and the report was considered section by section.

It promises that the necessities of trade call for co-operation between the producers and refiners, for purposes of mutual protection. Therefore the following articles of agreement, in substance, are entered into:

First. Each association to appoint a committee to see that the provisions of the agreement are executed in good faith.

Second. The Producers' Association to appoint a controller, who shall examine the books of the Refiners' Association and its daily reports, so far as they relate to the purchase, sale and shipment of crude and refined oil. The Refiners' Association also to appoint a controller, who shall have the same right to examine the producers' reports, so far as they relate to the purchase, sale and shipment of crude oil. The two controllers, with the auditor of the Refiners' Association, and the secretary of the Producers' Association to make joint reports daily to both associations of all sales and shipments.

Third. Each association agrees to keep accurate books of accounts, which shall show all purchases, sales and shipments of crude and refined oil.

Fourth. The Refiners' Association agrees to admit all existing refiners to membership, and the producers to allow all producers to join their association on the same terms with present members.

Fifth. Neither association to go outside the other to buy or sell crude.

Sixth. All producers enjoying the benefits of the agreement to sell their oil exclusively through the Producers' Association.

Seventh. The refiners not to sell until after sixty days any crude or refined now held, without they shall have previously purchased an equivalent of crude to take the place of the oil so sold; they are to buy daily such quantities of crude as the markets of the world may take of them, the same to be determined from time to time by the representative committees.

Eighth. The price of crude oil so purchased and sold to be conditionally five dollars per barrel of forty-two gallons each, at common points; payments to be made as follows: Not less than four dollars in cash or its equivalent, the investigation to be open. The statements of some of the individual cases are as follows: Mr. Dawes wishing to invest nine hundred dollars in some Western railroad bonds, consulted Mr. Ames as to the safety of the investment. The latter advised him to add one hundred dollars and buy ten shares of Credit Mobilier. Mr. Dawes was disposed to decline the purchase on the ground that he did not know anything as to the safety of the stock, and could not afford to risk the little money he had that way. Ames then offered to give Dawes a written guarantee that it should be worth ten per cent. to him. Subsequently Dawes learned what convinced him that he should not hold this stock, and asked the return of his money from the latter, and he retained it with the interest he had paid. Judge Bingham, Mr. Ames said the former placed in his Ames's hands several thousand dollars to invest as he thought best. He made purchases of various kinds of stocks for Bingham, and among them were a number of shares of Credit Mobilier. In the majority of cases the stock was held by Oakes Ames in his own name, and not transferred to the parties in interest. With one it was different, and that was where borrowing money from Oakes Ames, and he carried the stock to reimburse himself. General Banks states, in reference to Mr. Frank Bird's letter, that he was never offered or approached directly or indirectly by Mr. Ames at any time with Credit Mobilier stock, and that the only incident which ever resembled such transaction was an earnest ait tipt of George Francis Train to induce him to take some stock of Credit Fancier concern.

Senator's Witnesses Contradicted.

Ames further stated that he invested a little money he had in Credit Mobilier stock. After receiving the explanation from Ames, and assurance that no further legislation would be asked for or required, he agreed to take twenty shares upon the further offer of Ames to guarantee it to be worth ten per cent. shortly after the report of a law suit among members of the company for the public, Mr. Wilson, on inquiry felt convinced that this might lead to legislation on the part of Congress, and that it might also destroy the value of the stock. He went to Ames and requested the return of his money. Ames gave it back, with ten per cent. interest, and offered the dividends due; but there Mr. Wilson refused, and only received back the original principal and interest. The stock was exchanged to him. This transaction has no connection with the silver wedding story so generally circulated.

Proposed State of Deseret.

The bill for the admission of Utah to the Union as the new State of De-ere-et was introduced to-day as an amendment to the pending bill enabling Colorado to form a State Constitution. It provides that Representatives shall not be apportioned until the next census, and sets apart two sections in every township for common schools; fifty sections in the Territory for public buildings and an equal number for a penitentiary, seventy-two for a State University, and five per cent. of the proceeds of the sales of all public lands for public education. No religious test or civil qualification is made in the amendment to Polygamy or any other of the Mormon peculiar institutions, the only thing approaching it being a provision that the laws of the United States not inapplicable shall have the same force and effect within said State as elsewhere within the United States.

Reduction of Coal Miners' Wages.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

PITTSBURGH, Ohio, December 21, 1872.

A meeting of the coal operators of the Mahoning-town and Shenango valleys was held here last night, at which it was unanimously resolved to reduce the miners' wages twenty cents a ton, to take effect January 1st. It is stated on good authority that the miners will stand the reduction and not come out.

THE LOUISIANA DISORDER.

Address to the People of the United States.

Forcible Statement of the Case.

WASHINGTON, December 23.—The Louisiana Committee have handed out for publication to the people of the United States, who they believe are not unconcerned spectators of the events now transpiring within the limits of that State, and for which it is probable no parallel can be found in history. The committee repel as utterly false the insinuation that they are mere allies and agents of Governor Warmouth. They are not the representatives of any personal or party interest whatever. So far as Warmouth's past conduct is concerned, few if any of them have not been among his most pronounced opponents, while in those measures for which he has been most loudly denounced he had for long advisers, associates and coadjutors the very men who now assail him, including especially Pinchback, Antoine and others, whose names figure most conspicuously in these proceedings. The committee declare, in reply to another insinuation, that they are no parties to and have no knowledge of any political trickery intended to defeat the true voice of the people; that they do not believe any such existed, and that they would not be here unless they could proclaim conscientiously their conviction that the men who have been foisted into the offices of the State have not been merely irregularly and unlawfully installed but were not elected by the people, and were not and are not the choice of the majority of the voting population of Louisiana. The committee add that all they have asked of the government is to make candid and impartial investigation of the facts, and then proceed to give a detailed statement of all the facts connected with the election, including the various injunctions by the courts, and with the organization of the party Legislature which impeached Governor Warmouth and placed Pinchback in his stead.

"Steps having been taken," say the Committee, "by Governor Warmouth to secure the revision by the Supreme Court of the United States of the chancery orders of the United States Circuit Court, has body forthwith adopted resolutions to dismiss these proceedings. The militia was placed under the command of General Longstreet, and the arsenal taken possession of by aid of the United States troops. A like revolution was accomplished a month later, under the orders of a Chancery Court, in suits over which the court had no jurisdiction at all. The Circuit Courts are all looked up; you have got some property: I have none? I want you to promise me that you will take care of my children." (The witness here was visibly affected.) "I said, "Mr. Greeley, I will do so: I will give you my word I will take care of them as if they were mine own." "I feel thought—(Objected to.) I then said, "Mr. Greeley, I wish you would come home with me; I believe if you will come to my house where you will see no one except my family, the rest will do you good;" he said "I cannot go; I have been writing all day;" his dress was covered with paper written on; he said,

"I CAN'T WRITE ANYTHING THAT SUITS ME;"

he had written on Boston, on the effect of the fire on Wall street, and none of them suited him; Mr. Reid came in, and I said to Mr. Reid, "Mr. Greeley will not go; you must compel him to go immediately and Wall street, and says he cannot do it;" Mr. Reid said, "He need not write;" I said to him, "You take the responsibility and I will take him over to my house;" he said, "I will set Mr. Corydon to work;" I said, "I will not have Mr. Corydon come here urging him to go with me, Mr. Storrs came in for the purpose of getting Greeley to his house; he then told Mr. O'Dell to go over to Corydon's and say that he was not going to Chappaqua; I wanted him to go with me to my house; I thought I could get him to talk with him about old times and cheer him up and I would take him to his office after breakfast; I said, "I will go when you want to go, at four or five o'clock;" he wouldn't give me any answer, and I went over to Corydon's and took him over to my house.

"On coming from what you saw and heard at that interview, down to the time you got into the carriage, what do you say—what is your opinion of the state of his mind?—Objected to, and admitted with exception.) A. I thought he was insane.

Q. Proceed with your narration. A. I took him into the carriage and drove him home about five o'clock to my house in Brooklyn; after he had gone in his room he came down stairs and laid on the sofa in the parlor, and I said, "Now we will have a chat and smoke;" Mr. Greeley, if you wish to be relieved from your embarrassment, you can do so in a shawl, and he said there I suppose for an hour; my wife looked at him and asked whether she should get him some tea, and I said "Yes," if he could sleep it would do him more good than eating; we went down to tea, and I said to him that we would go to bed; we stayed down longer than usual on that account; then we came up and went into the front room, talked on different subjects, and I said that we would go to bed; he called to me by name; he said, "Come in, I have a question to ask you;" I went in and sat by his side

The Pittsburgh [illegible] ...mber 28, 1872.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1872.

HERE is a chance for guessing. It is said for a fact that the President has selected Mr. BOUTWELL'S successor, but intends to keep the name of the future manager of our national finances a State secret until the proper time for making it known. General GRANT has frequently achieved great success in this line, and may be successful in this instance; but his reticence is extremely tantalising to a numerous class who intend that no secret shall be kept from them, especially one so important as this. It will be amusing, if not instructive to note the guesses on the subject.

A GREAT hue and cry has been raised about the corruption of the South Carolina Legislature, which is nearly or quite two-thirds colored. But in this respect it is not worse than at least half a dozen Northern Legislatures, with not a single colored man in them. A fair scrutiny will sustain this assertion. Besides, the South Carolina Legislature in point of intelligence will compare favorably with more than one of our Northern Legislatures, notwithstanding half a dozen years ago not one in twenty of the members could read or write. Of these colored legislators it is to be said they have manifested extraordinary intellectual progress and will challenge comparison with any equal number of white men in or out of the Legislatures, North or South. Concerning which section is there the best ground for hopefulness?

THE New York *Times* asks: "What shall we do about murder?" The question is asked, but it is not answered. The asking involves the fact that the law is insufficient. The question, therefore, should be: "What shall we do about that?" If in seeking for answer it should be found that the Death Penalty defeats itself, and that herein, as much as any one particular, is the difficulty, it would be both honest and politic to admit the fact and act accordingly. Many maintain that just here is the seat of the difficulty. Others dispute it. In the New York Legislature, at the coming session, the question will be considered, as it is being considered nearly everywhere by the public. Not in New York city alone, but generally throughout the country, the punishment—rather the conviction—of the murderer is more difficult than almost any other offender of a high grade. We believe this is the fact—what is the reason?

AN EVENT AND AN INFERENCE.

Rev. DEWITT TALMADGE, of Brooklyn, has quite an extensive reputation, not only as a man of culture and eloquent divine, but also as an earnest Christian preacher. Any man or woman who has studied sanitary as well as theologic truths and propositions; whose interest in humanity relates not less to the social than the spiritual problems of existence; who is thoroughly posted in the various progressive plans and movements of the time—a man, in short, fully imbued with what is called "the spirit of the age." He has also had ideas of his own with regard to architecture and the proper material for the construction of buildings. He considered iron the only indestructible, and therefore the only fit substance for public edifices in which he was indoctrinated with his own views the congregation to which he ministered; wherefore they built an iron church building, cased with corrugated iron, and straightway proceeded to felicitate themselves on its cheapness, its manifold acoustic and other advantages, its durability, and above all else, on its perfect immunity from the devouring element of fire. When Chicago was licked naked by the fiery tongues, TALMADGE knew that he had successfully solved the question of fire-proof buildings; and when the heart of Boston was burnt bare in a night, he discerned still more fully and extolled still more highly the incomparable invulnerability of iron. But the other day there chanced to be a defect in the fine of his brave iron tabernacle, there was a sudden bursting out of flames, and presently the fire-proof building was hopelessly on fire, and being literally destroyed. Whereupon Mr. TALMADGE is not so positive about the indestructability of iron buildings, now. "Reform" is an excellent word; and reformers are presumably as sincere as they are earnest. This believer in the absolute fire-proof qualities of iron, however, stands as a type of quite a large class of men, each of whom has his particular remedy and reform for the ills and

CHRISTMAS TIME.

Two writers wrote on the subject, and what they wrote is as follows:

First Writer.

At this hour multitudes are turning their thoughts to that marvelous land whose green sward has so often been trodden by the feet of prophet and poet—to the hierarchs of the kingdom of God. To the city of Nazareth, as it was more than eighteen centuries ago the mind appear as bowing to the behests of the High-est. She receives the salutation and the mysterious message of the angel. We follow as along the rugged way, she hastes to the home of her cousin in hilly country that was given as a heritage at Hebron, and the weird songs of the favored women falls sweetly upon our ears. And then comes the marriage and the toil-some journey, the scant lodging and the birth of the wondrous child at Bethlehem; and our ears, as those of the rapt shepherds are entranced with the angelic minstrelsy, and marveling we join their glad acclaim, "Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, good will to men." We follow the humble cortege to the temple. The silence of its courts is broken by the triumphant sound of the glad utterances of ANNA the aged, and away once more, through Samaria, across the famed field of Esdraelon, to their home in Galilee, we with them journey in the early spring time. Our revery is disturbed once again, and strangers from the East make eager inquiry for the King in the streets of Jerusalem. Taught by Hemod that the predictions pointed to Bethlehem they haste away. The Jaffa gate swings open, and to their gladdened eyes the star-like meteor which in their own country had been the harbinger of His coming appears, and we watch them, as regardless of HEROD'S command they turn northward. Led by the star they reach the place of the fam-ily to their home. Our own hearts render the homage and worship which gifts of frankincense and myrrh but faintly symbolize—and the story is all before us, old yet ever new, familiar yet ever strange, its interest ever increasing, as the steps move onward to solve the dark problems which lie hidden in the grave.

JESUS, David's nobler son, the star portended king, "this day unto you is born." And what birth becomes a pivotal center on which historic ages all revolve. Through this point in the time which separates the past from the future, and marks distinctly the new era, a new departure.

Of two things history assures us: The ages preceding the era of JESUS were ever looking forward to the coming of one whose empire should be that of universal peace and quiet. The generations of the former era, as they marched successively to their destiny, kept their faces ever to the front, and looked wistfully for the promised one to come, that he might lift their burdens from them and restore the golden age. But the generations which come after, albeit marching in the van of human progress, and ever looking for and striving for the expansion of his kingdom, keep their eyes upon him as they march, pressing their way, but ever looking back to that hour of His appearing was to date the origin of a new dominion, whose conquests should be ever being made until the empire of rational thought and unwearied love should be finally established all over earth. And the signs of that coming time when that empire shall be proclaimed, can they not be discerned? Mark well the language which is most closely identified with the evangelism of that kingdom is spreading. The language of commerce: it enters every port and haunt of trade. It profits by the conflict of its only competitor for the mastery, and bids fair to take the place which must soon be vacated as the language of courts and diplomacy. Its composite nature permits it to adopt and absorb the phrases and expressions of all people and make them its own; and and if the "one kingdom" is to have one language then that one language already is foreshadowed in the tongue which most clearly and steadily enunciates the gospel of MARY'S son. And among those who speak this one language there is the ingathering of wealth, the facility of travel, of intercommunication and of intercourse unequalled elsewhere, and wholly unexampled; and to-day the possibilities of the conquests of Christian ideas, and the Anglo-American civilization so closely identified with the principles which JESUS set forth are such as to afford ground for the expectation of the speedy full of antagonistic principles and systems.

And yet perhaps—hope may be long deferred. As in the days of his infancy there are yet HERODS, who, for their own selfish ends, would "slay the innocents" and beat back even to barbarism the progress which the consummation of the purposes of JESUS requires. But the truth shall yet conquer, and the fullness of the times when Christian principle and the ethics taught by the Nazarene shall be accepted by all people shall be ultimately ushered in. Then again may the angelic doxology be chanted in the ears of all men, and the song of jubilant humanity may mingle with "the voices blest," and with reverence the thought turning to Him—the once lowly babe in the manger at Bethlehem, now the exalted Prince MESSIAH—there may ring out in the sky of each hemisphere, thus encircling the globe with its jubilee, "Glory to God in the highest; on earth peace; good will to men."

So let it be in the good time coming; and so let it come right speedily. And in the confidence of the might and progress of the ideas of this noblest of the sons of men, this divine manifestation in the flesh, we greet our patrons, and wish for them, as for all, a right happy Christmas—a season of joy and of gladness.

Second Writer.

"A merry Christmas to all!" One year goes, and another comes; and once again we are brought to that great festival of peace and charity which has been so beautifully and truly described as "the Sabbath of the poor man's year." There are many times and seasons which are full of pleasure and joyous meaning to some, but there is only one time—Christmas—in the entire round of the year, when the whole world's heart seems attuned with universal sympathy and kindness; nor any other time when the daily duties of life seem so fully a-glow with the divine hues that come from the unrestrained exercise of our best and highest humanity. "Peace on earth; good will among men." Let us all try to make this the key note of to-day's doings and belongings. It is the season when everything that is good and noble in human nature should press its way to the surface and coin itself in pleasant and gracious helpfulness. Let us remember that there can be no perfect "peace on earth" while cries of distress are mingling with the songs of the happy hearted, nor any universal "good will," if those who are prosperous keep their hearts shut and their pockets buttoned, while their less favored brethren are pinched with want. Christmas without the poor, and without the fragrant acts of love and charity that for one day make the whole world forget itself, would hardly be Christmas at all. Of all seasons of the year this is the time for making others happy: for the gladdening of the children, for the lifting of the lowly, the soothing of the sorrowful, the feeding of the hungry, the clothing of the naked, the sheltering of the homeless, the ministering to the sick, the assuaging of the infirmities of old age. Said a wise man, once: "That which I kept I lost, and that which I gave I have." This is true; and we can all of us make ourselves more or less rich in this manner, to-day, by contributing each according to his ability and opportunity to fill the time with generosity, and that broad Christian philantrophy which is alike devoid of intolerance of heart or selfishness of mind. In the words of "TINY TIM," "God bless every one." If we strive to put the day into harmony with the beautiful suggestions and significances which attach to the origin of the memorable festival, it will indeed prove "a merry Christmas to all."

SILK CULTURE.

Why It Cannot be Made Profitable in California.

A Chaldean Account of the Deluge.

An account was lately printed of the discovery and translation by Mr. George Smith of a Chaldean account of the deluge on an Assyrian tablet in the British Museum. Mr. SMITH has now read a paper before the Society of Biblical Archæology on this interesting subject. He gave a summary of the history, or rather of the legend, which introduces this account of the deluge, and which is very much related entire. The differences between it and the biblical account are singularly few and not general. Of safe and timber the materials of which the tabet formed a part of the library of Assurbanipal, king of Assyria, who reigned about 660 B. C. The inscription was found mixed with gold from a much more ancient writing, and the attempt to fix these fragments of flood from heathen writings have altogether failed, the discrepancies being altogether beyond being reconciled. Sir HENRY RAWLINSON, who is looked as the greatest living authority in Assyrian antiquities, thinks that the translation of these tablets is beyond question the mountain on which the ark rested, namely, the precipitous range overlooking the valley of the Upper Tigris in the province. It is significant fact that this account agrees with the Biblical account in the cause assigned for the deluge a punishment for the sins of men. This, with other attendant circumstances, tends to confirm Sir HENRY RAWLINSON'S theory that this story and that of the Bible had a common origin in Chaldea, and that the Hebrews received it in the form in which it appears in the Old Testament from the Assyrians or some other of the nations of the Eastern countries. It would not be in the least surprising if some more ancient tablets be found in two accounts independently handed down for many years, the very slight and trifling differences are so few and unimportant is a striking fact in their favor. There are but one or two names which in the Assyrian account differ from, and are as the same in each account, but the wide difference in the language and spelling, and the strongly marked characteristics of the Assyrian inscriptions, will fully account for this divergence.

An Extraordinary Phenomenon.

A correspondent of the Lebanon (KY.) *Standard* writes to that paper from Kirksville, Madison county, November 22, as follows:

This morning, at the depot, up Silver Creek, about half mile west on the depot, I witnessed a very singular meteorological phenomenon. The sky about me was cloudless, and the sun, about half an hour high, shone with its ordinary brilliancy. Then, all at once, a noise as of the occasional falling of globular masses which resembled in size and appearance round stone; and there being no wind or cloud, I thought it was hail. I then looked at the sun to get a notion of its origin.

Globules, or balls, globules, about twenty feet from the earth, descending at an angle of about forty-five degrees, from the East, and noticed their frequent bursting into a cloud of fine mist. As they fell from the ground, the particles scattering in every direction, like a drop of water falling on a hot stove, and disappearing. I looked upon my clothing, and found myself all spotted over with a substance of a mineral white color, resembling lime, except that it was specks of milk, which it well represented, except in color. It evaporated shortly, and in a few places only can be found traces of it. No track, or trace of it can be explained upon the hypothesis that accounts for red and green snow in certain region and altitudes?

An Ex-Secretary of the King of Hanover Dies in Poverty and Misery.

[From the San Francisco Call.]

A slight tinge of romance is thrown about the fate of the man who was found dead in a garden on Broadway, Oakland, on Sunday morning. Among the papers found on the person of the deceased were some which show that his name was OTTO Muller, and that he was born in Hanover, and aged seventy-five years. The Coroner of San Francisco called upon the coroner of Oakland, and recognized the remains of Muller. The coroner of Oakland informed Muller had been stopping at his house some time: that he was at one time, many years ago, Muller's secretary of State in Hanover, but that for some reason he lost his position and came to the United States. Muller, he says, had been a faithful servant of the late Government of his native land, but failed to save in wash.

Curious Investigation.

Some interesting as well as curious investigations have been made by Mr. GEORGE SMITH as to the rate of growth of the nails. Among the results thus arrived at appears the fact that the nails of the little fingers grow more slowly than those of the other fingers and the thumbs, the difference being one-fourth. The mean rate of these—excluding the little fingers—was found to be approximately 1-10 of an inch ten days. The rate of growth on the thumbs is appreciably greater than that on the six longer fingers, and the rate of growth is greater on the right hands. The rate of growth is not constant throughout the year, but is more rapid in summer than in winter. The substance of the nail advances equally throughout its breadth. The rate of nail growth in an individual at intervals of several years shows sensible differences.

A GENTLEMAN who has traveled four months in Wyoming Territory writes as follows: "I undertake to say, without fear of successful contradiction, that Wyoming contains more room and more coal than any other Territory, and probably as much as Missouri. Her coal will turn a whose city into a perfect blaze, and from some points the smoke from her coal and iron alone will ere long make her the Pennsylvania of the Rocky Mountains. Her climate and soil are common sense equal to those of Colorado. Her mountains are not so high and rugged, nor do they cover so much land, in proportion to area. Her pasturage and grazing advantages are also equal; and in point of climate and healthfulness she is far ahead. Except here, and four of Dodge City, there is little danger from Indians. Cheyenne is as large as Denver, and her other cities have as large and as many handsome residences. Laramie City is the equal of Pueblo, and Rawlins and Green River are the rivals of other Eastern counties. It would not be in the least surprising if some wealthy capitalist will be found in two accounts independently handed down for many years, the very slight and trifling differences are so few and unimportant is a striking fact in their favor. There are but one or two names which in the Assyrian account differ from, and are as the same in each account, but the wide difference in the language and spelling, and the strongly marked characteristics of the Assyrian inscriptions, will fully account for this divergence.

Use of the Magnetic Needle in the Location of Iron Ore Veins.

Appleton's *Journal* says: "Major T. B. BROOKS having lately concluded a series of practical tests with a view to determine the actual value of the magnetic needle as an aid in the discovery and locating of iron ore veins, embodies the results of his observations in a paper read before the late meeting held before the American Philosophical Society of Philadelphia. It is the opinion of the author that, in prospecting for iron ores, the ordinary ship compass may be made to render valuable service, since he was able to ascertain by the steam hammer, when he was able to ascertain by the steam hammer, when possible, and started out to walk to Armstrong Station, two miles distant, and only about half of this distance was the train stopped, he crawled upon the pilot of the icy locomotive, and provided down upon the tracks beneath the smoke-box.

The train moved on at a rapid rate. The cold, biting air and the wind swept fiercely against him through his clothing, chilled him to the marrow. He soon discovered that he must inevitably freeze to death in his present uncomfortable condition, but there was no escape. The train rushed on through O., and after leaving Kane Summit, never stopping. Haight found himself gradually sinking, benumbed and utterly helpless. He felt that the cross ties of the track frame. Gradually he dropped down until he found himself jammed between the warm smoke-box and the track.

The noise and clatter of the machinery became deafening. He could see nothing around the rushing locomotive. Haight knew he must die if left in this perilous position. The train passed by the station without

The Pittsburgh Commercial, Saturday, December 28, 1872.

FROM SAULT STE. MARIE.

Ice Back Side of Lake Navigation—Casualties on Lake Superior During November—A Terrible Storm—Fifteen Days' Detention—Steamers Towed Sound—The Probable Course of Vessel Owners.

[Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.]

SAULT STE. MARIE, December 20, 1872.

I wrote you some time since giving you some idea of the profit realized by owners of vessels, but after that your reporters may not be led to go sailing at all to profit and to rest, and that Lake Superior is free from hazard, both as regards life and property, I deem it but proper to state as near as possible the condition of the ice in the vicinity of the Sault. Navigation is not quite over yet, but from present indications it will be in a few days, as the ice is now setting in very rapidly, and the weather is fast becoming cold enough to freeze over. Vessels are still passing up and down the river, but their passages are becoming more and more difficult each day. Should the weather continue cold for a few days longer, navigation will be closed for the season. Vessels are now coming down with their cargoes of grain, and will be compelled to lay up for the winter. Many vessels have been detained here for fifteen days, and have been towed down the river by tugs. The ice is now running in large quantities, and is very heavy. Should the weather become warm for a few days, the ice would run out, and vessels could pass down the river; but should the weather continue cold, the ice will soon become so heavy that vessels will be unable to force their way through it

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, December 28, 1872.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1872.

HORACE GREELEY'S death was strikingly foretold by one of his old associates in the *Tribune*—and an ardent supporter of his Presidential aspirations—who early in the canvass wrote to another that whether successful or not it was scarcely probable that Mr. GREELEY would long survive the result.

RECOLLECTION of the assassination of President Lincoln is brought afresh into the public mind by the application of the owner of the barn wherein Booth took refuge, and which was burned, for indemnity. His petition is before the Senate Committee, he being admonished that at the establishing of his loyalty at the time being of prime importance.

THE scandal over Mr. GREELEY'S will is to be continued, although those immediately interested—his daughters, brother and others—have voluntarily signed a paper renouncing all personal grounds on which the [illegible]. The contestants, some of the nearest and closest friends, seem determined to prove him insane and [illegible] possible case for him [illegible] public—what for does not [illegible] reason, whatever it may be [illegible] their love for their [illegible] state, and will doubtless [illegible] scandal goes on.

THE authority states that American railway securities are attracting unusual attention abroad, where little interest exists concerning their soundness. This the same authority does not as a general thing doubt, though in some notorious cases foreign investors have sustained losses, more on account of their own folly than for any other reason. An analysis shows that American railroads net five per cent. on their outlay, which is fully equal to those of Great Britain; while in the natural growth of the country there is a buttress of solvency which no other country can show.

MR. SUMNER wants to have stricken from the Army Register the records of the civil war, and from the banners of the Republic the names of the battles fought in its defense. Why not go further, level the monuments, and efface the graves of those who fell for the great cause? Still further; blot out the record in Congress and State Legislatures, extinguish everything extinguishable that can tend to keep alive recollection of the great triumph, including the act of Emancipation, its most grand and legitimate result. Let Mr. SUMNER be consistent. If his object is the conciliation of the South, let him begin at the spot where there is the keenest feeling—take the negro first and send him back to slavery.

IT is evident that all the grain which can be spared from this country will find a ready and profitable market in Europe during the present season. The London *Times*, in a recent article on the question of the bread supply of the United Kingdom, says there will be needed, from September of the present year to September of next year, twelve million quarters of foreign wheat and flour. This is the largest quantity Great Britain will ever have imported within a similar period, and the bulk of it, taking into account the failure of the harvests in some other of the wheat growing countries of Europe, will have to be drawn from the United States. Some of these countries themselves will also be compelled to draw on us for supplies.

THE question of the constitutionality of prohibitory liquor laws is about to come before the Supreme Court of the United States, in the shape of an appeal from a decision of the Supreme Court of Iowa. It is maintained by the appellant that the prohibitory law of that State is in conflict with the Federal Constitution, because it forbids the importation of liquors into the State under certain restrictions. This is held to be in conflict with those provisions of the Federal Constitution which vest in Congress the right to regulate commerce with foreign nations and between the States, and forbid preference in favor of the ports of one State over another, and the laying of imposts or duties on imports and exports. The case is of considerable public importance, inasmuch as the general principles underlying it have equal reference to all other States in which prohibitory liquor laws exist and are proposed. It is, we believe, the first instance in which the question has been appealed to the Court of last resort.

IT STRIKES the St. Louis press as "a noticeable fact" that all the Pacific or trans-continental railways will be controled or centralized at Philadelphia, through the instrumentality of the Pennsylvania Railroad. Well, there is no fact in denying that the consolidation in question is laying plans which will probably result in controling a large part of the traffic of the Mississippi Valley and the Pacific. It is a question of brains, energy, foresight and resources. If St. Louis and the Southwest had a Colonel SCOTT of their own, there would be no company that could rival for the interposition of the Pennsylvania Company in the railroad affairs of that section. So long, however, as its people confess their need of comprehensive schemes adapted to the practical requirements of trade, and admit their own inability to furnish them, they must not think it strange if others step in and carry off the prizes from under their very noses.

OF THE persistency of monopolies there is no end. Last spring we called the attention of the people, to the effort, then being made, to obtain from Congress a renewal of the WILSON patent for a "feed motion" to sewing machines; urging united and earnest opposition to the application, on the ground that the inventor and patentee had been amply compensated, and that the extension would tend to prevent the introduction of other practicable improvements in sewing machines, besides keeping up the cost of their purchase or hire to a figure far above what it should be. The term of the patent has already had a run of twenty-one years, and everybody in any way interested in it has been richly remunerated for whatever inventive genius or pecuniary outlay may have been expended upon it. The Commissioner of Patents, moreover, has steadily declined to grant the renewal asked for. Another effort is now being made to obtain it from Congress. It is to be hoped the press will again take cognizance of the matter, which affects the interests of the poor, and demand of Congress that it shall stand firm in their behalf.

WONDER what he would think if the question [illegible] in our own country? The [illegible] attended a short time [illegible] planaing that no [illegible] construing [illegible] national construction." There is perhaps a still more woful lack of clearness and definiteness on the part of our own legislators, State and National. It is but a few months ago, for instance, since Congress passed a voluminous act codifying all the legislation relating to the Postoffice; but before it was a month old a number of its provisions were found to be absolutely unintelligible, so conflicting were their various requirements and the different constructions placed upon them. Some of these were last week corrected, but how soon the amendments themselves will be found to need amendment, nobody can yet tell. It will probably not be long, however. Why is it that our statutes should be so much less consistent and intelligible than ordinary business papers and documents?

THERE seems to be a general movement on foot looking to the revision of State constitutions. The numerous and important changes incident to the last decade, the incorporation of amendments into the United States Constitution antagonistic to those of a number of the States, and the marked advance which has taken place in popular thought and sentiment within the past quarter or fifteen years, are urged as arguments in favor of the proposed revisions. Besides the Constitutional Convention in our State, and the Commission created for a similar purpose in the State of New York, the people of Ohio will amend their organic law next spring, while in Indiana, Missouri, Minnesota, New Jersey, New Hampshire and Tennessee, the subject is also being agitated. There is no doubt that a revision of the constitutions of most of the States is needed. Many of their features are far behind the times, and while change for the sake of change is not to be wished, it is certainly desirable that the fundamental statutes of the States should as nearly as possible be brought into conformity and sympathy with the spirit and motion of the age.

IN THE *Tribune* of Saturday there is an editorial on Mr. GREELEY, in which this occurs:

> "Yet some persons professed to be instantly influenced when he declined to support GRANT for re-election; those who were honored by his confidence knew that his determination had nothing whatever to do with his own personal fate. This was in a manner forced upon him by circumstances."

This reads strangely in connection with the uncontradicted statement that less than one-half of the *Tribune* Association were opposed to Mr. GREELEY becoming a candidate, that Mr. SINCLAIR acquiesced finally as the alternative of something worse, and that Mr. REID went to Cincinnati under the direction of his superior. It was Mr. GREELEY'S right to [illegible] his own course, but it was not [illegible] to the Association, which [illegible] to be consulted.

RAILROADS AND THE PEOPLE.

No sensible man doubts that one of the great practical questions looming in the future is, or rather will be the regulation of the relation between the railroad corporations and the people. In some quarters the emergence of the subject may have been foreseen from the beginning as a necessary consequence of familiar economical and financial laws often before exemplified, and it is only within a few years since patent facts in American railroad operations forced the subject upon the attention even of people who, gifted with sharp eyes for their own advantage or disadvantage, seldom, if ever, concern themselves with questions of a merely speculative or theoretical interest. Those benighted peasants who, in England, used to turn out with matlocks and pitchforks to drive from their vicinage the engineers engaged with level and measuring chain in laying out the "line" for the mysterious carriages which were intended to supersede horses and carts, were fiercely resolved against the *use* of an agency to them incomprehensible and terrible, and the less benighted, though almost equally uninstructed farmers and gardeners of Lancaster and Chester counties, who waged war upon the first railway through their lands, because they were sure it would flood the Philadelphia market with the products of Central Pennsylvania and the West, were animated by no dread of an abuse either of power or instrumentality. They were merely staunch conservatives, fully satisfied with things as they were, and certain that, whoever else might be benefitted, they themselves would be injured by a change.

There early protests of ignorance against a beneficent innovation are alluded to rather as one of the slighter curiosities of railway history than as having any analogy or relation to the complaints against the companies, which are becoming every day more rife and earnest in some parts of the country. It is, however, not wholly unworthy of remark that, while these murmurs are heard almost everywhere, they are especially loud and menacing in those regions against which jealousy in the East was aroused by the first railroads, and which have been most strikingly, if not most really, benefitted by them. The Illinois *Staats Zeitung*, which circulates widely, with great influence among the German farmers of the Western States, in a recent issue, refers to the railway companies as the "modern robber-knights;" a term as full of odium as any other to people among whom still live traditions of those unscrupulous gentry who flourished on the plunder which they exacted from the unarmed population around their strongholds, who were helpless to defend themselves, or their property.

According to the *Staats Zeitung*, the gigantic power attained by the railroad monopolists has been brought home to and especially felt by the farmers of the West during the last twelve months. In the process of converting their crops into money they are as utterly at the mercy of the railroad companies as the merchant of the Middle Ages was at the mercy of the landits who watched the highways. It is they who determine how much of the price of the grain paid by the distant consumer shall go into the pocket of the farmer. They have only to adjust the rate of freight in order to extort from the cultivator a heavier tribute than Brigham Young takes from his Mormons. Whether the farmer shall pay two, three or four bushels of grain in order to convey one bushel to the English market, in other words whether he shall receive for his grain a third, a fourth or a fifth part of its reigning value in England, all this absolutely depends upon the good pleasure of the powerful "robber-knights of the railroads."

But this, says the *Staats Zeitung*, is not all. By establishing for shorter distances higher freight rates than for the entire length of the road, these robber-knights are able to compel the farmers to send their grain to certain chief stations, where robbers of another sort, the owners of granaries or warehouses collect from them another heavy toll. In comparison with this taxation of the labor of the people, national, State and county taxes seem to our contemporary mere child's play. And while it is a form of taxation which has a directly depressing or even paralyzing effect upon industrial activity, the people themselves have nothing to do with its imposition. Legislatures, Congress, have nothing to do with the matter, the *Zeitung* is clearly of the opinion that as the result of the political development of the near future, the people are likely to exercise a very decisive influence in it. At any rate, the question, it thinks, will before long be decided whether or not this is to be the case. The State of Illinois has already taken the subject in hand, as its new constitution secures to the people in their organic character as a State the right of decisive interposition in the administration of the railroads. Naturally the railroad men resist this provision of the constitution, and like the "cotton and tobacco lords of the South" take refuge behind the bulwark of the courts. But, even if the courts should protect them, yet, says our contemporary, the DRED SCOTT decision proved that such artificial ramparts can not hold out against the spring flood of clearly defined popular conviction.

In conclusion, we are told that the State in this country is placed in the same position relative to the railway kings, in which the German Emperor in the middle ages was placed in reference to his feudal lords. At first entrusted with a certain portion of the sovereign power, these feudatories by cunning or by audacious resistance gradually assumed to themselves the power of the State and reduced the sovereignty of the Emperor to a shadow. In the several States of the Union the Princes of the Iron Rail have already acquired a similar position in respect to the power of the State. They claim to be and are for all practical purposes sovereign, while the Legislatures which created them, representing the people, are their mere vassals. The time may not be very remote when the people of these States may find it unavoidable to resume or rather to assert their sovereignty and deal with these arrogant Princes even as the young Emperor of Japan lately dealt with his Daimios.

During the sessions of the Constitutional Convention, soon to reassemble, the relation of the railroad companies to the State, is one of the most important subjects to be considered and practically determined, and its discussion among the people cannot begin too early. And it is especially interesting to know what leading organs of opinion in other States are saying about the great question.

FEMININE DEMONISM.

In the Greek mythology the Eumenides (the benevolent ones), less politely named Furies by the Romans, were ladies of the demonic order. The fact no doubt sufficiently accounts for the euphimistic or flattering appellation conferred upon them, though the reason usually assigned for it is that people dreaded to call those fearful beings by their real name. To the imagination of men in those early times they were very terrible, and the effect of the current fables concerning them must have been somewhat to counteract the common masculine tendency towards the idealization of woman into a creature of higher than human perfections. And the other tendency or tendency in the opposite direction so commonly exemplified among barbarians, which degrades the same creature into a mere beast of burden, was perhaps rather favored than discouraged by the same force of the popular theology which clothed vengeance in female forms.

However this speculation may be scorned by others, it cannot but seem plausible to those theorists who are accustomed to perceive in the universal worship of the Madonna in mediæval times a powerful influence in the elevation of woman, and consequently in the general softening of manners. But we have digressed from our purpose, which was to remark that, in spite of all its defects, the prevalence of Christian civilization for the most part prevents or suppresses those exhibitions of feminine wrath, energy and revenge which in remote ages gave origin and form to the Greek fable of the Eumenides. True, the newspapers constantly tell of crimes committed by women atrocious enough for any purpose, it would appear. It would, however be easy to show that neither their ordinary use of the stiletto nor their occasional resort to arsenic or strychnine, indicates the peculiar character of depravity to which reference is intended. But a case has lately occurred at Fort Wayne, in the State of Indiana, which clearly belongs to the antique, and in its details strikingly exposes those moral possibilities which, in the utter absence of examples, might be supposed extinct in the daughters of EVE through the influence of Christianity.

Mr. and Mrs. X. are believed to have lived as happily together as man and wife commonly do in their social position. Some time ago Mrs. X., with or without reason, began to fancy that Mr. X. preferred IDA D. to herself. This young girl had for a while kept house for the husband, in the temporary absence of the wife on a visit to relatives. One day IDA received a message from Mrs. X. requesting her to call at her house as she, Mrs. X., had a letter from the country for her. In the afternoon IDA dressed herself in her best clothes, and went to Mrs. X.'s house, where she was met at the door by the woman, who kissed her, inquired particularly about the state of her health, and placed her in the most comfortable chair in the room, an armed rocking chair. Mrs. X. offered the girl refreshments, which she declined, with a request for a glass of water. This was at once brought by the amiable hostess, who herself took a drink. The woman then went into an adjoining room, from which she speedily returned with a strong cord or rope arranged in the form of a noose. Smiling and talking pleasantly all the time, she stepped behind her visitor, and dropping the noose over her head and arms, with a sudden jerk she soon bound the young girl helpless in the chair. IDA's feet were next tied to the chair. "Now," said the woman, "you shall see how I will avenge myself," whereupon from the table drawer she took a pair of shears, a large knife and a revolver, all of which implements she spread upon the table before her victim, by this time ready to faint with terror.

The tormentor's next step was to cut off the girl's hair as close as possible to the skin, leaving only a single handful on the top of the head, for the purpose, as she explained, of facilitating the subsequent operation of scalping. The girl screamed and called for help as loudly as she could, but the house stands in a lonely place, and no deliverer appeared. After cutting off the hair Mrs. X. brought a looking-glass that IDA might see the change produced in her appearance. As the girl begged for release, saying that she was freezing, she was told, with a plentiful application of mocking epithets, that she would be warm enough before she got away. Mrs. X. then put the poker in the stove, and while calmly waiting for it to become red-hot, she told her victim what she intended to do with it. "First, I will burn your eyes out," etc., etc.—And she really began to execute her threats—but when she was trying to blind the girl, the latter by a superhuman effort, succeeded in releasing one of her hands with which she seized the glowing poker and for a while arrested the monster in the perpetration of her crime. This interruption made it necessary to reheat the poker, and in the meantime the unlooked for return of the husband was all that saved the girl from prolonged torture and death at the hands of Mrs X.

THE PRINCE AND THE COUNT.

Prince BISMARCK'S resignation of the headship of the Prussian Cabinet for the purpose of devoting himself wholly to his functions as Chancellor of the Empire was announced several days ago. This step, judged differently by different parties, is considered as important by all, and it has naturally given rise to a good deal of discussion. Several reasons are assigned for the Prince's action, and "the terrible Chancellor," as CARLYLE once called him, has played so momentous a part in contemporary history that these reasons are likely enough to interest readers who may know little and care less about German politics. Perhaps a sufficient motive for the step might have been found in the state of the Prince's health, which has long been so delicate as to render necessary from time to time a retirement to his estate in the country and at least partial seclusion from all business and care. Nobody, however, seems to regard this as an entirely satisfactory explanation of the fact. It is alleged as something indubitable that the real explanation is found in the result of a division which has long existed in the Prussian Cabinet.

Nearly a year ago Prince BISMARCK and Count EULENBERG, Minister of the Interior, disagreed decidedly on a question of jurisdiction in the much agitated act relative to the inspection of schools, and when consequently the Count, the only member of the Cabinet who sat in the House of Deputies, voted against this particular paragraph, the Prince regarded his action as an intentional affront, as the effect of it was to weaken the government by diminishing the majority which supported the bill, and by enabling the conservative party to found hopes upon divisions in the ministry. Then it seems that the reform bill, lately the matter of conflict between the government and the *Herrenhaus*, was prepared and introduced into the House of Deputies, without consultation with BISMARCK. Hence when the *Landtag* met, and the struggle for the reform bill began, it seems between the government and the *Herren*, the Prince remained at Varzin, his country seat, and persistently refused to heed the repeated appeals of EULENBERG to go to Berlin, and help by his influence to prevent the rejection of the measure and the triumph of the feudalists. He answered that, as his position as chief of the Cabinet had been disregarded, and the act of [illegible] taking his advice, he felt no call or obligation to aid in the rectification of the blunder which had been committed. And when the bill had been rejected by an overwhelming majority, Prince BISMARCK'S newspaper organs, savagely attacked EULENBERG as the Minister of the Interior, as a man utterly destitute of the qualifications demanded by his office. Having said so much it was hardly necessary to give expression to the obvious inference that the Count ought, by his resignation, to make way for a more competent successor. It is thought likely that representations of the same tenor were privately made by Prince BISMARCK to the King with the view of effecting Count EULENBERG'S retirement. But if this was done the effort proved fruitless. The Count is said to be an especial favorite of the Emperor, and in the subsequent management of the reform bill, he is admitted to have displayed a degree of tact and ability which completely overthrew the unfavorable judgment of him expressed in the pamphlet of BISMARCK, and certainly en artisned by the Prince himself. In other words, if the foregoing statement is correct, the lengthened dispute between the Count and the Prince terminated in the triumph of the former, and the defeat is believed to have had much to do with Prince BISMARCK'S resolution to withdraw from the Prussian Cabinet, and, in future to give all his attention and energies to the affairs of the Empire.

Many members of the Liberal party in Prussia are said to regret this step of the great Minister, as they fear that the importance of Prussia among the States of the Empire may suffer detriment by the change, or rather, their thought is that the predominance of Prussia in the Empire makes it necessary that the affairs of both should be conducted by the same intelligent agency. Others, however, are of opinion that the change will be of advantage both to the Kingdom and the Empire. No longer responsible for Prussian politics, the Chancellor will be enabled more effectually to resist the Prussian Separatists or State Rights party and more independent than formerly, less exposed to the influences and intrigues of the Court, he will, they think, be enabled with better results than ever to represent the Empire and carry out those principles of reform which concern the entire country.

A DECISION AND SOMETHING MORE.

Several months ago, when mentioning the proceedings of the Brewers' Congress which had met in New York shortly before, we referred to the effort which the Congress had resolved to make with the view of distinguishing in the general mind their product from the product of the distiller. The distinction which the Congress desired government and the public to make was the difference between "spirituous" and "fermented" liquors; the brewers naturally, whether rightly or not, contending that, while the former might be injurious as a common drink, the latter were not, and that beer especially was not only a delicious but a nutritious and beneficent beverage. In connection with this subject, as well as for other reasons, some interest attaches to a recent decision of the Supreme Court of the State of Tennessee.

In a case taken before that Court by appeal, a man had been convicted of violating a statute of the State by selling a glass of beer to a customer on Sunday. The statute in question forbids on that day the retailing of "spirituous liquors," and the lawyers who took the appeal argued that their client had been illegally condemned, on the ground that beer is not a "spirituous liquor," and therefore is not included in the prohibition of the law. The Court sustained the appeal. It appeared that, with a single exception, the Tennessee Judges have always recognized the distinction in law between spirituous and fermented liquors, and the difference runs through all the statutes of the State relative to the subject. Wines and malt liquors being specified along with, or in addition to, spirituous. Reference was made to a long and very elaborate judgment delivered many years ago by Chief Justice TURLEY, in which he pointed out the distinction between beer and whisky. The exception referred to above is a decision of Chief Justice MILLIGAN, which denies the alleged difference, but the judgment was refuted by a statement of the constituents of the articles—beer containing only three per cent. of alcohol at ale from six to nine per cent., while whisky contains between fifty and sixty per cent. of that fiery ingredient. The dictionaries of JOHNSON and WEBSTER were appealed to as authorities. The definition given as WEBSTER'S is not found in his dictionary ("unabridged"), and we fancy must have been taken from his spelling-book. In it WEBSTER states that in Bavaria beer is a chief article of diet among the laboring classes, and in some degree supplies the place of animal food, since little other nourishment being [illegible] to satisfy the appetite of the [illegible]

If the nourishing power [illegible] thing to do with the argume[illegible] might have found some stat[illegible] their purpose in Dr. Liebig's [illegible] Liebig says that when tempe[illegible] arose in England, household[illegible] vants agreed to abstain from [illegible] fair to give them in money the equi[illegible] what they used to drink. They, however, soon discovered that the consumption of bread increased in such proportion that they paid for the beer twice over, once in money and once in bread. In other words, those who left off beer required the more bread. Liebig also says, that when the Peace Congress met at Frankfort-on-the-Main, the proprietor of the famous Hotel de Russie of that city was completely thrown out of his calculations in laying in provisions for the accommodation of his guests. From many years experience he knew almost exactly how much of each article to provide for a given number of constumers. But the members of the Congress, all reformers and temperance men, drank no beer or wine, and therefore consumed such quantities of farinaceous food as confounded their host, HERR SARG. In connection with the fact and the reason of it Dr. LIEBIG is reminded of Prince HENRY'S exclamation to FALSTAFF, "O monstrous! but one half-pennyworth of bread to this intolerable deal of sack!"

A REFORM IN WASHINGTON.

Among the Washington dispatches in the COMMERCIAL of yesterday there was one which referred to a "movement now in progress to banish liquor from all official and private receptions during the holidays." Two or three most respectable and influential gentlemen were named as being actively engaged in promoting the reform. A reform it undoubtedly deserves to be called. Upon the evidence of countless witnesses who have at different times given testimony on the subject, it is certain that these formal holiday "receptions" are not mere occasions of temptation to the weak, but are somewhat more. Viewed as mere occasions of temptation it is by no means clear that Senator WILSON could with reason or propriety ask gentlemen in official positions to unite with him in an attempt to abolish the incidental feature which imparts to them that character. A person thus appealed to might justly reply that precisely the same temptation being presented in all directions, in every barroom and at every restaurant in the town, not to mention private cellars, the removal of it from the side-board would be too manifestly futile a remedy to command any respect. If appealed to on the ground of responsibility for his own example, he might fairly repel it as little better than an impertinence, and in the matter of eating and drinking, a man who felt bound constantly to regulate his taste and desire by considering the possible influence of his indulgence upon the morals of his neighbors, would inevitably die prematurely from indigestion caused by anxiety.

The real solid objection to the use of liquor on those Christmas and New Year receptions is that they afford intemperate people an excuse for getting into and being, or rather having been in a condition which they know to be dishonoring to themselves. Calling at a dozen or more different houses in succession and drinking freely at each place, they necessarily become drunk. And the mischief is that, the custom being what it is, they are established themselves martyrs in the cause of friendship or good fellowship or politeness. It is of course, a miserably baseless and hypocritical pretense. It is, however, allowed, and no doubt will be allowed until the progress of culture and refined morality, and especially the clearing away of the mystification which at present envelopes the subject of temperance, kill its three-card-trick excess in strong drink the same stigma of dishonor that it bears in the rest of Christendom. We need hardly say that, in writing thus we are thinking not of those members of the community whose *taste* is not injured by excess of any kind, but of the classes whose conduct and relations are regulated by a code of manners, which, though unwritten and sometimes modified by local influences and other circumstances, is upon the whole well understood and enforced with more or less rigor, in all highly civilized countries. The causes which have led in some parts of the United States to so remarkable a modification of the code in reference to drunkenness, would be an interesting subject of investigation.

RUSSIA AND ENGLAND IN ASIA.

It is not in the least surprising to learn that the Russians have not, as some inferred from the dispatch of a few weeks ago, finally abandoned the expedition against the Khan of Khiva. [illegible] about the temporary arrest of the expedition so long in preparation, was the result of the pacific wishes of the Czar. Having heard that the Viceroy of India had not only entered upon, but made in his project of resistance, but had strongly urged him to release his Muscovite prisoners and make his peace with the autocrat as soon as possible, the Czar determined to stop his military expedition, and allow time for the Viceroy's good counsel to reach the Khan and exert its influence upon his mind. He hoped, we may presume, that failing to receive promise of British aid, his Mussulman majesty would really see the folly of his resolution to fight and would follow the good advice he had received. This was the meaning of the dispatch announcing the abandonment of the expedition against Khiva. But the Khan is determined to hold out, has issued a proclamation to the tribes, his neighbors, to come to his assistance, and the Russians have resumed preparation for his subjugation. The result may be regarded as certain; Khiva will be placed in the same predicament with Bokhara, and in a few years the Russians will control all Central Asia to the Himmalahs. One effect of the Russian advance towards British India will certainly be to furnish the English rulers of the country an additional and very strong motive for so governing the people as to render them contented with their rule. The English in India have feared the Russians to the north of them chiefly because their neighborhood tends to excite discontent and hopes of deliverance among the people, and this result can be prevented only by a constant yielding to the desire of the better classes to have a share in the government of themselves. It is noteworthy that the part involuntarily performed by the United States in extorting reforms in the British rule in Ireland should be performed by Russia in cogently recommending reforms in the British government in India.

THERE MUST BE SOME HANGING.

The New York press is seized with another vigilance committee spasm. The fact that six verdicts of murder, with the sentence of death passed upon the culprits, were delivered in London on one day last week, is made the occasion of a powerful onslaught on the practical uselessness of the Courts and prosecuting officers of that city as means of bringing capital offenders to justice. One paper defines as a "lost art" "the repression of crime by the suspension of the criminal;" another asks, "What shall we do about murder?" and declares that the time is rapidly approaching when, unless detection in murder is certainly and swiftly followed by the punishment of death, the people "who do not belong to the class of ward politicians" will themselves take the matter directly in hand; while still another says that unless murderers are convicted and hung "there is no escape from anarchy or the dread alternative of government by a Vigilance Committee." The air is filled with ominous references to Judge Lynch, and it seems almost certain that unless justice is hereafter administered much more surely and promptly than has been done for a long time past, the horror of mob law will inevitably fall upon that city. In one thing, however, we think these journals miss the point. Nobody questions the fact that the man who breaks the law should be punished by the law; but it does not necessarily follow, as is charged by these papers, that the criminal-hounded condition of New York results from "the pernicious influence of the doctrine of the abolition of capital punishment." Whether hanging as a penalty for murder is right or not, is not the point. Whatever may be the penalty, the certainty of its execution is the prime fact in which must always inhere the efficiency of the law, and the safety of life and property. It is the habitual uncertainty of punishment which habitually encourages the criminal, and the execution of the law of death has come to be more uncertain than any other. Let the press of that city address themselves to this branch of the subject.

COLONEL BOUDINOT, a Cherokee Indian of marked ability and culture, has addressed a letter to Hon. FELIX R. BRUNOT, Chairman of the Board of Indian Commissioners, dissenting from so much of his report (recently printed in these columns) as relates to the Indian Territory. Colonel BOUDINOT considers Mr. BRUNOT, who opposes the passage of the Territorial bill now before Congress, to have been misinformed in regard to the correct status of the Territory and the wishes of its people. He points out that as long ago as 1866 Congress abrogated a portion of the Cherokee Treaty of 1866; that the questions of propriety and legality involved were for more than a year thoroughly discussed before the Judiciary Committee, and that in May of last year the Supreme Court of the United States rendered its decision, declaring [illegible] of Congress [illegible] view entertained by [illegible] Cherokee nation, who [illegible] matter is, under the treaties [illegible] tion of Congress. Colonel BOUDINOT adds that a very large portion of the Cherokees are in favor of just such a Territorial government as the President has recommended, but that they are afraid to advocate the measure openly for fear of assassination; which, he says, is among that tribe the uniform argument in answer to every proposition for progress and reform which in the least disturbs their prejudices. The letter is very moderately and ably written, and will be likely to have more or less effect on the pending controversy over the proposed measure.

WHETHER members of Congress did or did not deal corruptly in or were corrupted by the stock of the Credit Mobilier, it is a fact that a considerable number were interested in that security. It is in evidence that a few of such investors got out of the concern when they perceived that it would come before Congress and they would have to act on it. While it is not best to be too suspicious, it is difficult to believe that all was fair and honest, in every instance. One of the lamentable things the public has to contemplate is the alleged propensity among Congressmen, at both ends of the Capitol, to make money out of their office. The belief exists that bills are sometimes passed by the use of money; and until it is explained how a Congressman can make more thousands than his salary amounts to and spend a sum equal or more than the whole of it, the public will be excused for suspecting that it is not all right. It is not, perhaps, what is positively known in the case of a corrupt character so much as the conviction, too well established by a variety of general reasons, of Congressional corruption, that attracts the attention of the country to the Credit Mobilier scandal. Whatever may be the precise outcome of the investigation, it is to be hoped, and there is some reason for believing that, for a time at least, Congressmen will be taught a lesson, and made to be more cautious, if not more virtuous. Could the House or Senate screw itself up to expel a member or two for ascertained corruption the prospect would be still more hopeful.

WE HAVE several times since the President's re-election, in view of the breadth and catholicity of his course with regard to public affairs, expressed the opinion that before his second term had half expired, he would, if he pursued the same even-handed way, find himself supported by the better element of the Democratic party almost as heartily as by the people who elected him. There are some indications that this may come to pass sooner than was expected. Iowa, for instance, is having a real political sensation in the open secession from the Democratic party and accession to the Republican ranks of General GEORGE W. JONES, one of the oldest and most prominent citizens of that State, a former Senator in Congress, a foreign Minister, and "a man," according to the Democratic Dubuque *Herald*, "of all times of weight, character and influence." He says, in giving his reasons for the step, that he believes the Republican party intends to be true to the whole country; that he has all confidence in the President's desire and design to promote retrenchment and reform; and that, upon the whole, looking at the subject in its largest aspect, he considers the administration party to be considerably more democratic, in the best sense of the term, than either wing of the faction at present opposed to it. Hence, as he expresses it, he has changed front, and "marched into the ranks of his opponents." The occurrence has created a decided sensation in political circles in Iowa and the West, where it is evidently acting as a powerful distintegrating force.

ALL PARTIES interested, except those whose wrong withers would stand a chance of being badly exposed by the operation, will be likely to welcome the larger scope which it is proposed to give to the Credit Mobilier investigation, in the shape of suit for the recovery of some eighteen millions of dollars said to have been gobbled by, and divided among those engaged in the transactions of that concern. There is little doubt that there has been loose dealing somewhere. The ninth census returns show that besides the immense amount of land donated to the different railroads, the Union Pacific owes the government $27,236,953; the Central Pacific, $27,855,680; the Central Branch Union Pacific, $1,600,000; the Kansas Pacific, $6,303,000; and the Sioux City and Pacific, $1,628,320; making a total of nearly sixty-five millions of dollars. According to current appearances, there is little prospect of the government ever being paid; while it is, unfortunately responsible for a still larger amount, and has to pay interest annually on bonds which the companies ought to meet. It is certain, too, that not a few parties connected with these roads have become suddenly wealthy. If this wealth has been honestly and legitimately acquired, they can have no objection whatever to the action which, it is said, the stockholders propose to take; while if any fraud has been practised through the Credit Mobilier on the government or people of the United States, it is every way right and proper that it should be unearthed and the guilty parties made to disgorge.

THE conflict of interests between the iron masters of Great Britain and their employees, which some time ago we foresaw and predicted, has already come to pass. The late successive reductions in the price of iron, of course rendered it necessary to decrease also the cost of manufacture, which, it seems, has been effected by cutting down wages ten per cent. This step led to a recent meeting of the Amalgamated Miners' Association—a numerous and powerful body of workingmen—for the purpose of taking into consideration the regard thereto, at which it was decided to resist the reduction by every means in their power. The decrease, it is said, extends not only to the colliers employed by the iron masters, but also, from their intimate connections, to those in the employ of the steam coal owners in the North of England and South Wales. The problem to be solved is a grave one. On the one hand, a reduction of ten per cent. in the wages of the workingmen at this season of the year cannot fail to work considerable hardship among them and their families; while on the other, if, as is claimed, the manufacturers cannot obtain cost for their product at the old rate of wages, they might as well discontinue operations. It is quite certain, too, that resort to strikes will not mend matters in the least. It is sincerely to be hoped such an adjustment of the difficulty may be reached as will be satisfactory to all parties concerned.

A FEW DAYS ago we made some observations concerning the revival of the shipping interests of New England. Similar gratifying tokens of a vigorous restoration of this important national interest are discernible at other points. New York papers refer to the generally favorable appearance of affairs connected with the ship-building industry in that locality. According to these accounts the impetus given to the business there is as marked and encouraging as the revival in New England. Now that wages have so greatly risen abroad, equalizing that branch of outlay in the construction of vessels, it is held that they can be built almost or quite as cheaply in this country as in England; indeed, one of our most prominent and enterprising firms, that of JOHN ROACH & SON, of the famous Chester yards, have actually undertaken to build vessels of the Clyde in terms and specifications sent for the building of four first-class iron steamers that are to be constructed for an Italian line, organized for the purpose of running between Naples and New York. Like those of Maine and Massachusetts, the New York builders have fully as much business as they can do this winter. Altogether, there is an excellent prospect of such a permanent revival of this important branch of business as bids fair, at no distant date, to place us once more on a par with foreign vessels in the same line.

ACCORDING to the statistical report of our foreign trade for the fiscal year ending June 30th, which has just been published, the general result of our trade does not make a good showing; the country having purchased goods to the value of sixty-eight millions of dollars more than it has sold, while we have sent abroad sixty-six million dollars' worth of gold and silver toward making up the deficit. The following table shows the condition of our foreign trade for the last eight years:

Year ended	Imports.	Exports.	Re exports.
June 30, 1872..	$644,337,510	$349,219,718	$32,769,749
June 30, 1871..	541,493,708	362,518,651	28,452,899
June 30, 1870..	462,377,767	499,992,143	29,417,159
June 30, 1869..	437,314,235	413,951,615	25,173,414
June 30, 1868..	371,624,308	254,301,716	22,621,121
June 30, 1867..	417,933,576	428,577,312	19,611,593
June 30, 1866..	445,512,158	320,694,877	14,781,117
June 30, 1865..	238,259,602	223,745,187	16,564,635

Were gold and silver bullion to be excluded from the total transactions of the past year, the adverse balance would be $134,481,918, a still more overwhelming balance of trade against us. An examination of the details of the report shows, however, one gratifying feature. There has been manufactures, the increase over the previous year being $2,066,158, or nearly twenty-four per cent. The lesson of the statement is that the country ought to address itself more vigorously than it has heretofore done to the task of becoming self supporting.

[illegible] Constitutional Convention adjourned in Philadelphia early in January, the principal argument advanced in favor of its continuance was that during the recess the committees would be able to meet and discuss, so that on coming together the Convention could go ahead, and time would actually be gained. Although [illegible] weeks have elapsed, it is understood that not a single committee has met, and there is every probability that the Convention will begin again where it left off, nothing having been gained, but something lost by the long recess. It is understood, also, that among delegates themselves there is not only a lack of interest, but a growing distrust of the ultimate outcome of the Convention. Concerning this, however, it is perhaps too early for a decided opinion; and certainly the public will be slow to conclude that there is ground for apprehending failure in a matter where so much was expected. In this connection it is reported that at least one and perhaps more delegates of prominence propose to resign from the Convention, allowing their places to be filled according to law. This certainly is not indicative of that hopefulness and zeal which existed at the outset.

IN THE absence of all probability of the adoption of the *Pauls* Sixteenth Constitutional Amendment, making foreign born citizens eligible to election as President of the United States, that paper might perhaps derive some satisfaction from advocating, in the stead of its own proposition, that of one Congressman KING, of Missouri, who has introduced a resolution to amend the organic law of the nation, by not only making it unlawful for white citizens, male or female, to contract marriage with "African or other colored" inhabitants, but also, as a further means of avoiding the danger of such results "from personal intercourse and contact," by directing the immediate repeal of all State laws prohibiting compulsory separation of the races in schools. Judging from the growing infrequency of our neighbor's attacks on the Fifteenth Amendment, it is becoming somewhat tired of butting its head against the wall in that quarter. Here, however, is a wholly new field for straight, square, anti-"nigger" utterances, without any necessity for constraint or mealy-mouthedness. Such a famous opportunity for airing its oracular wisdom is not likely soon to occur again, and it seems a pity that it should be permitted to pass by neglected.

SOME months ago the Legislature of Illinois passed an act making it unlawful for any person, by agent or otherwise, to sell intoxicating liquors to minors unless upon the written order of their parents, guardians or family physicians, or to persons intoxicated, or who are in the habit of getting intoxicated, and providing proper penalties for its infraction. The first trial under the law has just been held in Chicago, the complainant being the wife of an alleged habitual drunkard. The case resulted in a disagreement of the jury, seven being for acquittal and five for conviction. It was proved that the wife requested the saloon keeper not to sell liquor to her husband, that the saloon keeper ordered one of his clerks not to sell, but said nothing to the other clerk, and that the man was afterward drunk in the saloon. The Judge ruled that, if the bar tender employed by the keeper of a saloon sells liquor to a drunkard contrary to his instructions, the said keeper is not liable under the law. This, by opening a large loop-hole for evasion, virtually destroys the effectiveness of the statute, and serves to show that the enforcement of the criminal clause of the Illinois law, from which so much was expected, is likely to be as difficult as the enforcement of any other liquor law in any other State.

A PORTION of the opposition press charges that the President has backed down from his position with respect to Civil Service reform, for the reason that he recently appointed as postmaster of Chicago a person not connected with that office, instead of selecting, as in the case of the Philadelphia postmastership, the subordinate next in rank to the retiring incumbent. A sufficient answer to this charge is found in the fact, stated in the Chicago newspapers, that